

Churches grew..

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church — Eli Davis, W.H. Faubion, L.J. Faubion, C.H. Hedges and Catherine Davis.

"By unanimous vote this organization was called 'First Baptist Church of La Camas.'"

The church was incorporated in October 1893. In 1922, it was replaced by a building at Birch and 6th, by which time membership had risen to about 200 souls.

Finally plans were laid in the late 50s for the new church that now stands on Third St., just east of Louis Bloch Park.

ZION LUTHERAN

The nucleus of the present Zion Lutheran Church was formed in 1897. The first service was held in the building lent by the Presbyterians on Feb. 14 that year, under the leadership of Pastor J.J. Kern of Portland, Ore. Later, May 9, the congregation was formally organized with 14 charter members.

On Dec. 31 of the same year, a building was bought on 12th and Division, and this served as the church until 1937, when the present building was constructed at Garfield and NE 4th. Cost of the new building at the time was \$12,000.

Among the early family names associated with Zion are Wendt, Lorenz, Klein, Pieritz, Grosskrenz, Stockfish, Stuber, Panek, Mattmuller, Michel, Linder and Sadewasser.

In 1958, new facilities were added, including a social hall, and the church was remodeled and enlarged.

WASHOUGAL METHODISTS

In 1889 the Rev. E.C. Parker is listed as the first pastor of the Methodists Church of Columbia, later called Washougal. By 1908 it was noted by the Rev. George Landen, in the annual report:

"We have had a small society at Washougal for a number of years with no place to worship except a hall. A very neat little chapel has been erected and, with the lot, is valued at \$925."

Some of the names associated with the early years are Hathaway, Blair, Gillihan, Galbraith and Davis.

Between 1909 and 1914, a member of the church A.O. Hathaway built a dwelling for the pastor, and gave land on which a church was completed in 1914. The church, located on B Street, served the congregation for 56 years,

until it was replaced by the present new structure at 40th and M Streets. The new church was completed in 1970 by the Rev. Kenneth Bose, pastor in Washougal for the last six years. At the time of writing, Mr. Bose has just been transferred to Tacoma.

FIRST CHRISTIAN

The year 1912 saw the foundation of Camas' First Christian Church, on March 12 of that year. There were fifteen charter members, including Charles Asher, Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Blair, Nina Brown, Nora Brown, Fred Burlingame, Mr. and Mrs. O.C. Copley, Myron Copley, Mr. and Mrs. T. Craig, Mrs. Huycke, Mrs. A.D. McKeever and Mrs. Mary E. Oakley.

A new educational building was completed in 1958, to add to the present facilities on NE 6th.

At present, the church has 245 members.

CAMAS NAZARENE

On August 26, 1917, the Rev. J.T. Little organized the Church of the Nazarene in Camas, with 17 charter members. The first trustees elected were Delbert Day, J.A. Hunter, and A. Johnson. The first stewards were Jennie Hunter, Nancy Johnson, and Adelaide Brower. J.S. Hunter was treasurer and J.S. Brower was secretary.

For the first two years, the members met in rented halls. However, in 1928, they built a church at 4th and Ione streets. This church was remodeled and a Sunday school unit built during the pastorate of the Rev. W.R. Wise, 1949-54.

Ten years ago, a new fellowship hall and educational building were built on a new site at 2204 NE Birch. The former church was handed over to the Friends, and the Nazarene congregation used the new fellowship hall for worship until the completion of the new sanctuary.

In 1975, the present new sanctuary was finished, and this completes the fine complex on Birch Street which serves a congregation of 300.

WASHOUGAL NAZARENES

A daughter of this church is the Washougal Church of the Nazarene, which was founded in 1955. At that time, the Rev. Ernest E. Baker was pastor of the Camas church, and his wife took over the duty of interim pastor of the new church, until the appointment of the Rev. Rex Miller six months later. There were 25 charter



NEWCOMERS to Camas never fail to notice the striking architectural design of the First Christian Church, on Sixth Avenue. Here, the congregation gathers outside one Sunday morning in 1916. The church was built in 1912.

members.

At first services were held in the parsonage, until the present sanctuary was completed in 1965.

FRIENDS

A former member of a Friends church in Portland, a Mrs. V. La France in 1934 organized the first Friends services in Camas.

Mrs. La France began a community Sunday school at the Prune Hill schoolhouse. This grew until its success led to a decision of the General Superintendent of the Northwest to arrange for the setting up of a church organization. This church outgrew its facilities, and a new branch of the church was established at Oak Park in 1937. Later, the Prune Hill congregation moved and built the Forest Home Church, located at 701 NE Greeley, and the two churches operated as separate units.

The Oak Park congregation of Friends, which was meeting in a private home, succeeded in constructing a church building, which was later dedicated at Sumner St. on June 15, 1938.

Here they continued until 1965, when the congregation purchased the church on 4th and Ione, which was just then being vacated by the Nazarene Church. Here the Oak Park congregation continued, now called simply the Camas Friends Church.

Finally, in 1974, the congregation of Forest Home Friends and Camas Friends church united, and the new united congregation now uses the facility at 4th and Ione.

LDS CHURCH

The year 1937 saw the establishment of a mission by the Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints in Camas. The mission was at the home of Ernest Webberley.

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HERE are typical Sunday morning scenes at Zion Lutheran Church, circa 1901.

